

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the present amendment is respectfully requested. By this amendment, claims 3-9, 11, 13, 14, 17, and 18 are amended, and claim 1 is canceled. Claims 14 and 15 are allowed.

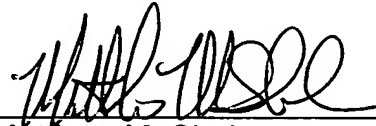
Claims 3, 11, and 14 are amended to replace "outlet opening" with --outflow opening-- for better consistency with respect to the antecedent basis for the "at least one outflow opening" element. Claims 4 and 5 are amended to replace "it" with --said membrane-- for proper antecedent basis. Claims 7, 9, and 17 are amended to be consistent with the language in claim 14, from which they now depend. Claims 9, 17, and 18 are amended to remove language redundant to that set forth in claim 14.

Claims 3-13, 4, 6, -9, 13, 17, and 18 are amended to depend from allowable claim 14. Thus, claims 3-13 and 17-19 are allowable as depending directly or indirectly from an allowable claim and also for their specific features recited therein. The amendments to claims 3-9, 11, 13, 14, 17, and 18 do not introduce any new matter or raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search. These amendments were not done to further distinguish over the cited references.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the above-identified application is in condition for allowance, and allowance of the above-identified application is respectfully requested.

Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in the fees for this amendment to our Deposit Account No. 20-0090.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matthew M. Shaheen', written over a horizontal line.

Matthew M. Shaheen

Reg. No. 45,367

TAROLLI, SUNDHEIM, COVELL,
& TUMMINO L.L.P.
1300 East Ninth Street, Suite 1700
Cleveland, Ohio 44114
Phone: (216) 621-2234
Fax: (216) 621-4072
Customer No.: 26,294